Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically establishing a wireless coverage cell using a repeater, comprising:

detecting, at a switch, a notification signal from a previously undetected first repeater coupled to the switch at a location, the previously undetected first repeater having been coupled to the switch via an Ethernet connection;

transmitting software from the switch to the previously undetected first repeater to configure the previously undetected first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and one or more mobile stations;

receiving at the switch a periodic communication signal from the previously undetected first repeater that establishes communication between the previously undetected first repeater and the switch;

in response to the periodic communication signal, automatically configuring the previously undetected first repeater to enable the previously undetected first repeater to wirelessly communicate with a mobile station and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location; and

once the previously undetected first repeater has been configured, optionally associating the mobile station with the previously undetected first repeater without [[the]] knowledge of a user of the mobile ~~station;~~ station,

wherein a new wireless coverage cell is automatically established when the previously undetected first repeater is coupled to the switch.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving the software at the previously undetected first repeater; and

executing the software to configure the previously undetected first repeater ~~communicating~~ to communicate with the switch and the mobile station.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the switch receiving a signal that indicates completion of the configuration.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining whether the previously undetected first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein if the previously undetected first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:

disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and

re-associating the mobile station with the previously undetected first repeater.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

detecting decoupling of the previously undetected first repeater from the switch; and

signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the previously undetected first repeater from the switch.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and

associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the ~~re-association~~ association is performed transparently to [[a]] the user of the mobile station.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

drawing power from the switch to power up the previously undetected first repeater;

performing an initialization within the previously undetected first repeater; and

transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate [[the]] a presence of the previously undetected first repeater.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for automatically establishing a wireless coverage cell using a repeater, comprising:

means for detecting, at a switch, a notification signal from a previously undetected first repeater coupled to the switch at a location, the previously undetected first repeater having been coupled to the switch via an Ethernet connection;

means for transmitting software from the switch to the previously undetected first repeater to configure the previously undetected first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and one or more mobile stations;

means for receiving at the switch a periodic communication signal from the previously undetected first repeater that establishes communication between the previously undetected first repeater and the switch;

in response to the periodic communication signal, means for automatically configuring the previously undetected first repeater to enable the previously undetected first repeater to wirelessly communicate with a mobile station and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location; and

means for optionally associating the mobile station with the previously undetected first repeater without [[the]] knowledge of a user of the mobile ~~stations;~~ station,

wherein a new wireless coverage cell is automatically established when the previously undetected first repeater is coupled to the switch.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for receiving the software at the previously undetected first repeater; and

means for executing the software to configure the previously undetected first repeater ~~communicating~~ to communicate with the switch and the mobile station.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, further comprising:

means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate a completion of the configuration.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for determining whether the previously undetected first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein if the first repeater is more appropriate, the ~~method~~ apparatus further comprises:

means for disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and

means for re-associating the mobile station with the previously undetected first repeater.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for detecting decoupling of the previously undetected first repeater from the switch; and

means for signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the previously undetected first repeater from the switch.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising:

means for locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and

means for associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the ~~re-association~~ association is performed transparently to [[a]] the user of the mobile station.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for drawing power from the switch to power up the previously undetected first repeater;

means for performing an initialization within the previously undetected first repeater; and

means for transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate [[the]] a presence of the previously undetected first repeater.

21. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having executable code to cause a machine to perform a method for automatically establishing a wireless coverage cell using a repeater, the method comprising:

detecting, at a switch, a notification signal from a previously undetected first repeater coupled to the switch at a location, the previously undetected first repeater having been coupled to the switch via an Ethernet connection;

uploading software from the switch to the previously undetected first repeater to enable the previously undetected first repeater to operate and communicate with the switch and one or more mobile stations;

receiving a periodic communication signal from the previously undetected first repeater that establishes a communication connection between the previously undetected first repeater and the switch;

in response to the periodic communication signal, automatically configuring the previously undetected first repeater to enable the previously undetected first repeater to wirelessly communicate with the one or more mobile stations and the switch without using information resulting from a site survey of the location; and

optionally associating the mobile station with the previously undetected first repeater without [[the]] knowledge of a user of the mobile station,

wherein a new wireless coverage cell is established when the previously undetected first repeater is coupled to the switch.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving the software at the previously undetected first repeater; and

executing the software to configure the previously undetected first repeater ~~communicating~~ to communicate with the switch and the mobile station.

24. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the method further comprises the switch receiving a signal that indicates completion of the configuration.

25. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

determining whether the previously undetected first repeater is more appropriate with respect to the mobile station than a second repeater with which the mobile station had previously communicated.

26. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 25, wherein if the previously undetected first repeater is more appropriate, the method further comprises:

disassociating the mobile station from the second repeater; and

re-associating the mobile station with the previously undetected first repeater.

27. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

detecting decoupling of the previously undetected first repeater from the switch; and

signaling an alarm upon detecting the decoupling of the previously undetected first repeater from the switch.

28. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the method further comprises:

locating a second repeater currently coupled to the switch, the second repeater suitable to communicate with the mobile station; and

associating the mobile station with the second repeater.

29. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 28, wherein the ~~re-association~~ association is performed transparently to [[a]] the user of the mobile station.

30. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises:

drawing power from the switch to power up the previously undetected first repeater;

performing an initialization within the previously undetected first repeater; and

transmitting a signal to the switch to indicate the presence of the previously undetected first repeater.

31 - 44. (Cancelled)